

Weare Heritage Commission
MINUTES
May 27, 2009

In attendance: Chairperson George Malette, Vice Chairperson Heleen Kurk, Secretary Meg Malette, Donna Osborne, and Pat Karpen.

A motion was made by George and seconded by Donna to approve the April minutes, as written.

Tanya Kress' PowerPoint presentation was passed around for everyone to review. This presentation is unfinished with regard to the Certified Local Government description. Meg and Pat will work on this presentation to get it ready for the selectmen and Weare Historical Society to inform them about heritage commissions and Certified Local Governments.

George handed out the following information to the members: New Hampshire Heritage Commissions and Demolition and/or Removal Delay. George recommended changing the age of buildings to be included in demolition delay from 75 years to 50 years.

George will send the portion of the Master Plan to Pat and Donna that discusses the historical and cultural resources of Weare.

Heleen suggested that we talk about grants with regard to paying for the town wide survey. If the selectmen approve Weare as a CLG, then Weare can receive a grant from the CLG to help pay for the town wide survey. The CLG offers grants up to the full cost of a town wide survey.

Donna said that grants, which are specific in its use, are to be voted on by the townspeople in March. Heleen said that we should look into putting this grant on the ballot this March to be approved.

George said that maintaining a CLG status requires a big commitment from the commission members. Because of the complicated explanation, Nadine Peterson of the NH Division of Historical Resources will be contacted to better understand a CLG and what it offers. Pat Karpen said that she will contact Nadine.

In the Master Plan it said that an inventory of historical and cultural resources of Weare has already been completed. George contacted Betty Straw, past president of the Weare Historical Society, who said that she is unaware of this survey. Heleen will contact Sherry Burdick, president of Weare Historical Society, to ask her about this inventory. Heleen also added that we should find out who was the Weare Historical Society president in 1994.

George said that Naomi Bolton would probably have the 1994 Master Plan. Heleen volunteered to contact Naomi about this.

George said that instead of Meg and Pat focusing on preparing the presentation to the WHS and Selectmen, we should concentrate on understanding CLGs to find out if its benefits are worth pursuing.

Pat said that she has recently been approached by the Friends of the Weare Library about becoming its treasurer and will ask the library if we can present a looping PowerPoint presentation on the Weare Heritage Commission at Old Home Day in the old town hall during their book sale. Along with the PowerPoint presentation we will have a tri-fold informational brochure.

By the June meeting, we should know if we're going to pursue the CLG and if Weare already has an inventory of historical buildings. Donna said that she will find out if we need to have the citizens vote and approve grants for a specific use.

Heleen said that our first goal is to get a town wide survey. This will tell us what we need to do as the Weare Heritage Commission.

The townspeople should become more familiar with the Weare Heritage Commission by having a presentation at Old Home Day: PowerPoint presentation and tri-fold informational brochure.

Old Town Hall, Clinton Grove, and Osborne Memorial Hall are important buildings to be maintained or updated through grants. Heleen said that Clinton Grove is a shell of a building and has great potential. Old Town Hall's second floor should be updated and include a kitchen. There could be parking behind the building. George says the tower of the Old Town Hall is tipping back and should be addressed.

Rules, procedures, and bylaws should be developed.

George presented everyone with a historical and cultural map of Weare. Today, George dropped this map off with Betty Straw to review for accuracy.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Malette

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Secretary